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Mills in Nouvelle-France



Bulletin

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Correction Bulletin no 83,

page 4, 2nd paragraph, you should have read **three** other founders of Archambault

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Mills in Nouvelle-France

Land concessions in Nouvelle-France

The implementation of the seigniority régime in Nouvelle-France marks the beginning of the land settlement. In order to give means of subsistence to the new settlers, the intendant grants them lands. Before leaving the Nouvelle-France forever in 1672, the great development promoter, Jean Talon, granted about sixty seigniories in a single day and made thirty-one concessions. The first colonists get the lands on the front line that are about thirty arpents long* by three or four arpents wide in order to allow for more peasants to have access to water. This way of sharing the land is unique in the world.

Thanks to their strength, cleverness and courage, the peasants manage to find food and shelter. In the first years of the French régime, water and wind are the only power supplies available. Windmills are therefore erected in order to obtain the products required to survive: bread and flour to feed oneself, wood to build a house and furniture, and wool to protect oneself against the harshness of Winter. Windmills also serve as strongholds in wartime. Many played an important military role.



In 1672, Jean Talon, a large property developer, granted about sixty seigniories and thirty one concessions in a single day.

Windmills under the French regime

Set up by the French colonizers, the water mills played an importance role in the expansion movement of the colony, a part that was only filled by the churches. Their history became confused with that of the seigniories of Nouvelle-France. Since 1666, one counted eleven water mills (nine of flour and two of wood) for a population of about 4 000 people during the census of Nouvelle-France. In 1667, a ruling of the Sovereign Council arranged the grinding to the fourteenth portion, a very high percentage for the period which was justified by the fact that “the mills of the country cost double and triple to those of France; cost just as much to build then to repair them”. Moreover, the lack of specialized carpenters and the climates changes among other factors had frequently obliged them to renew the mills.

In 1675, the Sovereign Council of Québec ordered that “the mills be either water, or wind, and the Lords have them built communally. The tenants were made to grind their grains there, and to leave them there at least twice within twenty-four hours. It was permissible for them to take it back if they were not grounded and in this case to bring it elsewhere without having the first millers able to claim the right of grinding”.

The Lords did not assume their responsibility completely since on February 4th, 1686, the Sovereign Council of Her Majesty ordered that the Lords who possessed fiefs in Nouvelle-France have their communal mills built in the period of one year. Once this period was passed one would allow the private individuals to build their own mills.

* 1 arpent \approx 175.5 feet



One noted for the year of 1685, only 41 mills were built for a population of about 11 000 people. In 1713, one counted 71 mills built among which 10 were of saw. The economic development of Nouvelle-France was built bit by bit; in 1730, we found 120 of them built flour mills and 70 were saw mills. The country then counted 35,000 people and its exports was about 60,000 minots per year. In 1750, we found 150 flour mills of which a good many of these exported their product to the Antilles. The number of mills that followed the same curve as the population and their evolution were very strictly connected with the economic activity of the colony.

The mills after 1760

The conquest brought some disruptions among the mill owners; the economic relations with the other French colonies were interrupted, which automatically stopped the exports of wheat.

Additionally, in 1787, Alexander Davidson reported to the “Office of Trade of Plantations” that the flour made in the Province by the old French mills was of poor quality and unfit for export, particularly for the colonies of India. Nevertheless, the number of mills followed the demographic curve and still sent their products across until the middle of the 19th century, at a time when one supposed to have an average of one or two mills per village.

The first half of the 19th century was big in number for the innovations of mills. The American Oliver Evans brought considerable perfections at the level of graders and hoists which increased the productivity of mills among other things. The French Fourneyron invented the turbine in 1827. This one, smaller than the bucket wheel had the advantage of providing much more energy with a lesser flow. Introduced in Canada about 1840, it was known as a considerable expansion among the mills of Québec. More so, the promotion of techniques had another effect since it allowed the mills of Québec to diversify their production by adding,

among other things like the carding of wool, the round saw, the mechanical production of pulp, etc.

Finally, the advent of the steam machines, the combustion engines modified the means of producing the flour or to saw wood. It became practically impossible for the mills to compete with the heavy industries. The introduction of new sources of energy and the introduction of industries with strong output were impossible to compete with therefore it accelerated the gradual abandonment of the water mills.

Despite everything, Québec will always remain a place of predilection of the water mills especially since the establishment of the electric power caused a usage on a very high scale of hydraulic energy¹.

The Windmills

The windmills were built at the interior of the land, and were especially used along the banks of the St. Lawrence. At the beginning, the large wheel was fixed on the same structure of the mill and was always directed towards the winds. Some harnessed animals made it swivel and direct it in the right direction. With time one was able to make only the roof of the tower of the mill turn to facilitate the operations. On May 16, 1649, the carpenter, Paul Chalifour who married Jacqueline Archambault the daughter of our ancestor gave a receipt to Jean Juchereau, the Sieur of Maure, a big recruiter of skilled workers, to manufacture for him a wheel, a shaft, a large wheel and an axle for his mill. On the following October 29th, it was the turn of Jacques Le Neff, Sieur de La Poterie to order from Paul Chalifour, a work of precision: “the frame of a consistent windmill with the body of the mill, solles (sic), posts, beams, movements, wheels and axle and generally all that was in the work of frame and cover” for the price of 1,000 pounds, two barrels of flour, a barrel of lard and

1. Source: Brève histoire des moulins.
www.histoirequebec.qc.ca/publicat/vol2num2/v2n2_4br.htm

fifty pots of brandy that helped to reduce the cost from the initial sum. According to *La tournée des vieux moulins à vent du Québec* (the turning of the old windmills of Québec) from Laval Gagnon and Kathy Paradise, this flour mill was probably the one that is now located on the "platform" of the fort near to the current Saint-Antoine Street of the lower part of the city of Trois-Rivières. On January 19th, 1671, five months after his return at Québec, the intendant Jean Talon called upon the services of Paul Chalifour, the son-in-law of our ancestor Jacques Archambault to build him a half-timbered turn mill, that was actuated by the wind at Bourg-Royal (known today as Charlesbourg) and promised to pay him the sum of 1,400 pounds for this work. It was in the 19th century that the windmills ceased their operations.

Water-mills

In the St-Lawrence valley, there were ten times more water-mills than windmills. It is estimated that, through the centuries, 2,000 water-mills were built as compared with 200 windmills. These water-mills were often built in the middle of the wood, back against a cliff. The mechanism could be used to power a flour-mill, a rope-mill or a sawmill.



Construction of mills on the rivers followed closely, as the settlers of the XVIIth Century settled.

Flour-mills

Flour-mills had a very slow evolution. In 1734, the count was 118 flour-mills and in 1842, they totalled 144. They adapted to the new life conditions only in the 19th century. With the progress of the mechanism, it became possible to grind as many as three different cereals simultaneously, wheat, buckwheat, barley, oatmeal, rye or corn.



Transport du grain au moulin.

Drawing from: *Les choses qui s'en vont*, of brother Gilles, Montréal. Granger & Frères Ltée, 1945.

As soon as he established himself in his domain at the Point of Lévis around 1649, François Bissot de La Rivière, fiscal attorney of the seigniory of Lauzon, had a water-powered flour-mill built. Twenty years later, his mill having become useless, he made a deal with Paul Chalifour, son-in law of our ancestor, Jacques Archambault, on February 17th 1669, to have a new mill powered with water built at a cost of 375 pounds.



Flour windmill

The first flour windmill of Pointe-aux-Trembles constructed in 1671 had been close to the residence of Laurent Archambault, son of our ancestor Jacques, the first churchwarden of the parish. This mill, reinforced with arrow slits could be served as a redoubt in case of an attack by the



Flourmill renovated, on Notre-Dame East between 2nd and 3rd avenue in Pointe-aux-Trembles.

Iroquois. Becoming unusable with the damage done by the water, the Sulpiciens had a second flour mill constructed. This last mill built had been one of the most elevated one in Québec, with a three-storied level, 45 feet in height.

In 1800, Gilles Archambault had been among the eight millers of this mill from 1721 to 1800. This second mill had been listed a historical monument in 1982.

Sawmills

At the beginning of the colony, the methods of building houses were inadequate to resist frost and winter temperatures. Wood was cut and squared by hand.

The advent of sawmills at the beginning of the 18th century brought some improvement, but it is only in the middle of the 19th century that house building reached a certain level of perfection. In 1850, there were at least 1065 sawmills in the country.

On lot 321 on Amyot road in Saint-Denis-sur-Richelieu (Montérégie, Québec), the Archambault brothers, Joseph and Avelain, had installed before 1870 a sawmill powered by a branch of the Amyot-River. The mill burned in 1875 and was

rebuilt shortly after.

Paul Chalifour has built other sawmills, including the mill of the general commissioner of the store of the Nouvelle-France company, Jean Gloria du Sault-au-Matelot, at a charge of 345 pounds, four jugs of wine and three jugs of spirits. The surveyor and map-maker Jean Bourdon, the one who introduced in the colony the principle of concession roads, asked him on October 22, 1653, to provide beams and posts for the construction of a floor. Thierry de Lestre, Claude Larchevesque and others also called upon his services.

Against the Outaouais River one would find a large variety of hardwood, used especially for the construction of boats and ships. To capitalize on these resources, saw mills were needed.

Joseph McGauvran (or McGovern) constructed the first saw mill on a small island near Montebello, Outaouais Region. It burnt in 1884. Advertisements were placed in newspapers inviting businesses to come establish themselves. An American by the name of Bell answered that call and constructed a huge sawmills. Unfortunately he did not have sufficient funds to properly equip the venture. Principal Citizens contributed to the enterprise by purchasing necessary equipments. Two years later, a machinist by the name of Archambault bought the entire business and continued to make it grow up until it was destroyed by fire, about five years later.

The wheat and the methods of payment...

The wheat had taken an important place at the beginning of the colony. It had helped to feed the colonists. According to the notarized contracts, payments had been usually made in silver (pounds and sols) and often minots of wheat had been included in the deal. Here are some examples of these contracts implying the children and the sons-in-law of our ancestor, Jacques Archambault:



March 18th, 1669

Laurent Archambault had rented a dwelling in Saint-Marie, a house with the exception of a cabinet that he had rented out to Jacques Boivin for five years, at a cost of ten minots of wheat and five minots of peas.

December 1st, 1669

The carpenter, Laurent Archambault had promised to construct a wooden building for René Sauvageau who in turn paid him with 40 minots of wheat.

April 20th, 1680

Laurent Archambault had sold 20 arpents of land to his brother-in-law Gilles Lauzon, the spouse of Marie-Anne Archambault. This transaction had been necessary for the fact that his daughter Geneviève had entered the religious (convent), and he had to pay 600 pounds for the amortization of her pension at the time of her profession, which had been equivalent to eight minots of wheat, and two minots of peas.

August 1st, 1695

In front of the Notary Antoine Adhémar, Marie Archambault, the widow of Urbain Tessier had rented for three years the properties, and concessions at Côte Saint-Martin from René Fézeret for payment of 25 minots of wheat, and five minots of peas per year.

August 26th, 1700

The widow, Marie Archambault, the daughter of our ancestor had rented all of her lands for seven years to her son Ignace of which, she had been pleased to live in the town with the buildings that had been there with the exception of the house, for a fee of delivering 20 minots of wheat annually: ten minots to Noël, and ten minots to the Candlemas (February 2nd).

August 20th, 1673

The coppersmith, Gilles Lauzon, spouse of Marie-Anne Archambault had made an agreement with Jacques Picot for the purchase a dwelling in 1664. He still had owed Picot the sum of 1900 pounds. Lauzon had promised to reimburse him by making 13 payments, of which the first one had been made with 100 pounds of butter, and merchandises, and the other twelve 150 pounds annually, of which 100 pounds had been in wheat, and 50 pounds in coppersmith's work.

The daughter-in-law of Jacquette Archambault and Paul Chalifour had drowned

On September 29th, 1685, Catherine Huppé, the spouse of Paul-François, son of Jacquette Archambault had drowned in Québec while crossing the Saint-Charles River. Jacquette Archambault, widow of Paul Chalifour for approximately six months had come to a decision with a union of neighbours not to go anymore to grind their grain at the communal mill in the seigniorial of Notre-Dame-des-Anges, situated on the other side of the Saint-Charles River. Her son Paul-François who had just escaped from drowning supported this move. Afterwards, one had not been surprised to see his name at the head of the list of the inhabitants who the miller Jean Méthot had made sign on February 21st, 1686, in front of the judge of the seigniorial of Notre-Dame-des-Anges. While taken into consideration the orders, the judge had given reason to the miller and had obliged the inhabitants to continue to grind their grain at the communal mill even if it obliged them to cross the river at the risk of losing their life.

... In France, a legend would tell that Archambaud, Sir of Bourbon, got lost during a hunt. During the night, he refuges himself in a mill. He then falls in love with the beautiful miller. He erected a hunting pavilion, which became a castle. The town on Moulins (France), capital of the Ducs of Bourbon, was created around.



John Archambault (Archambault) and the saw mills



Antoine et Caroline Alcock vers 1870.

Son of Antoine and Caroline Alcock, and grandson of Antoine Archambault and Josette Sévigny¹ of Repentigny, (Lanaudière, Québec). John was born in Belleville, Ontario on January 22, 1853. As a child he moved to Vernon Township, Isabella Country near Clare, Michigan.

On March 9, 1878 he married in Clare, Emma Caroline Bouchey. After the wedding they lived on the “Elden Farm” which they rented. He was not a farmer, but rather, a worker in various saw mills in Harrison, Michigan. John would walk to Harrison on Sunday evenings, a distance of about 15 miles, work all week and then walk back Saturday after work, then back again on Sunday night. After a while he got tired of this and moved the entire family (12 children) to Harrison.

There he worked in a heading mill where they made heads for barrels. Later he worked in the stay mill that made the sides for barrels. He also worked in the wooden shingle mill. John finished out his working career by working for what would now be known as the water department. He learned where all of the water mains were located and kept them operating properly.

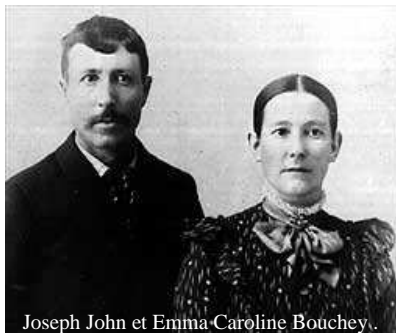
While one of his daughters, Margaret Sophia, was a child, Henry Ford had a farm near Clare and word went around that he would be driving by one day in his original automobile. Margaret Sophia and her family walked over to a road near their house to see this sight. She remembers her feelings were “NO HORSES!” and that seemed so impossible at that time.

John died in Michigan on January 21, 1935 and Emma Bouchey on August 18, 1931 also in Michigan.



1895

Margaret Sophia
aged 2 years old



Joseph John et Emma Caroline Bouchey.

around 1878

Source and pictures Cynthia Archambault-Vandersys.

1. Pierre Archambault, *Dictionnaire généalogique des Archambault d'Amérique*, vol. 2, p. 85 et 86.

*George Antoine Archambault, Inventor, brother of Joseph John
son of Antoine and Caroline Alcook*



Born in Canada in 1860 and married in Isabella County, Michigan on February 16, 1886 to Harriet Sophia Loomis. George Antoine lived in Clare, Michigan in 1899 and owned a lumber mill and a important general store. He was ambitious and very successful, living in a large brick home with his family. The house is still there today.

George was also too generous and he had incurred thousands of dollars in accounts receivable, which he never collected. Twenty years later his wife Harriet and his daughter Lucille destroyed these unpaid receivables.



Home built by George Antoine about 1890.

He designed a retainer loop for use on a grain scales. He went to the Chicago World Fair looking for investors and soon had two partners. He sold out and moved the family to Riverdale, Michigan, where he started a manufacturing plant.

Tragedy struck early on the venture, when the plant was destroyed by fire. George entered the blazing building to save the patented blueprints. While he searched in the thick smoke, a shot range out. He thought his partners had made an attempt on his life.

He fled Riverdale leaving his family behind. Harriet waited desperately several weeks before George wrote. He asked her to sell the furniture, buy train ticket, and move the family to Muskegon, Michigan. The accommodation in Muskegon were rudimentary. All their money was gone. George was working for a lumber company sharpening saw blades. He also spent time in a hospital to treat his smoke damaged lungs.

After 15 years of comfortable living, the family, now survived in poverty. Harriet was in charge of the family matters because George's work moved farther north as the land was cleared of timber.

Lucille was born in 1905 in Muskegon. The family moved north in 1907 to Millersburg, MI. The three oldest boys, Floyd, Archie, and Walter, stayed on as they had jobs in Muskegon.

Harriet found some comfort as her mother and two brothers were farming in Millersburg. Ann and Frances were born in October, 1908 and April, 1912.

When timbering played out, George found work at Kennedy Mills making wood railroad spikes. When the company moved to Bay City in 1914, George elected to move with them. He was making \$10.00 a week for twelve hour days. The strain was too much. He came down with the flu in July, 1915 and died within three days at the age of 53.

Entered into the family book by Jim Archambault Jr. and copied by Janet Clark, granddaughter of Floyd.

Do you know...

The Archambault brothers, Albert and Apollinaire, child of Joseph and Victorine Ayotte, operated a sawmill and flour mill from 1901 to 1903 at Sainte-Marie-de-Monnoir (Montérégie, Québec), under the business name *A. Archambault et frère*.

This society was also involved in the commerce of grain machinery and ploughing implements.

Apollinaire, husband of Marie Bellavance, also worked at Trois-Pistoles (Bas-Saint-Laurent, Québec) as mechanical engineer, for sawmills owned by the Renouf family. His son, Ovide, follow the foot steps of his dad and became engineer foreman during 17 years in different sawmills at Sainte-Florence, Millstream, Pitre-Siding and Amqui (Gaspésie, Québec) while his spouse Léonie Bérubé, dedicated herself at preparing meals for the workers. She also sold working clothes, gloves, mitts and tobacco to the workers¹.

*Fr. 2.
District de St. Hyacinthe 4*

Nous, soussignés, Albert Archambault et Apollinaire Archambault, machinistes, du village de Marieville, dit district, certifions, par les présentes, que nous avons fait et entendons faire en société, à Marieville, le commerce de machines à battre le grain et d'instruments aratoires, l'exercice du métier de confectionneurs de tels articles, ainsi que l'exploitation d'un moulin à scier le bois et moulin le grain, pour la raison sociale de "A. Archambault & Frère", que la dite société existe depuis le six de mai dernier (1901), et que, nous sommes et avons été, depuis le dit jour, les seuls membres de la dite société.

En foi de quoi, nous avons signé à Marieville le deuxième jour de novembre mil neuf cent un.

*Albert Archambault
Apollinaire Archambault.*


Letter from the Saint-Hyacinthe district



*Moulin Bellavance
à
Pitre-Siding
1924-1928*

1. Roch Archambault, *Histoire des Archambault du Bas-du-Fleuve*.



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Steamship boats

One century ago, the Yukon River was the main passage for the 30 000 Klondike adventurers. This was the era of the steamship, which got loaded with gold, silver, merchandise and mail.

The largest and most modern of these boats was the “Klondike”. Anchored to the shore of the Yukon River, and completely restored to give it’s look from the 1937-1940, Canada Park enable us to visit it and to bring us back in time.

Today many companies organized tours on these steamships, including the “River Lady” from Toms River, New Jersey. This boat, which could welcome up to 150 passengers, is an authentic replica of these old steamboats. Its conception is inspired from the Victorian’s architecture. The handmade decoration composed of acajou woodcraft, window dressing and copper artefacts, which allow to the passengers to appreciate a gorgeous dining room. The “River Lady”, on the Toms River and the Barnegat Bay, offer an ambiance of the steamship boats of the XIX^e century on the Mississippi River.



The River Lady from Toms River, New Jersey

Captain Lance Chambeau has a unique way to capture the attention of guests and to tell the story of the region. His style is pleasant and the environment is favourable to relaxation.

Riverboat Tours Inc. And the Chambeau family, operators and owners of the “River Lady” are part of the nautical industry of the Toms River since 1972.

www.riverlady.com



Welcome to new members

Luc Archambault

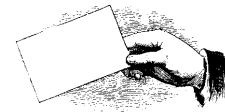
Longueuil

Aggie Murray

Renfrew, Ontario

Louise Russo

Laval



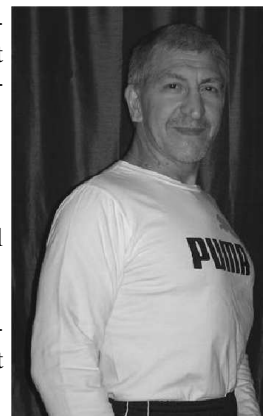
*Normand Archambault,
a model of determination and a symbol of hope for heart transplant patients*

Who would have imagined that only 4 months after a heart transplant in December 2008, Normand Archambault would have halved his medication without suffering from organ rejection and that he would now be solicited to talk at conferences with current or future heart transplant patients to give them courage?

What's his secret?

Never stop working out and eating right as his father Eugène, Mister Montréal 1950, taught him.

Normand pursued his training until his strength waned, right before his transplant. The strong man, as his father was and his grand-father before him, went from 185 pounds to 165 pounds in only a few weeks.



Waiting for a new heart was so long that Normand had to be kept alive artificially. According to doctors, he survived only because he was in good physical shape.

Five days after his surgery, Normand started walking again and five more days later, he got back on his bicycle. The same bicycle that had taken him to the Canadian championships in 1979. Less than two months later, he started swimming again with his 85 year old father. And that's not all, he also started lifting weights!

Today, Normand lifts weights up to 200 pounds and continues to progress. Soon, at 53 years, he could be as fit as he was before his heart condition.

Why does Normand put so much energy in keeping shape? Simply to reassure his family that he is healthy.

Thanks to the heart of a young skier, Normand is still among us to inspire us.

I would like to say thanks to every donor who gives a chance for a second life to someone and thanks to my cousin Normand for a beautiful example of life. Also very big thanks to all of the Montréal Cardiology Institute's medical team, a world-class center of excellence in heart conditions.

Denis L. P. Archambault, Mont-Tremblant.



We are happy to welcome Murray Archambault from Plainville, MA in our team of translator.

Thank you Murray all the Archambault will benefit your participation.

Guy Archambault

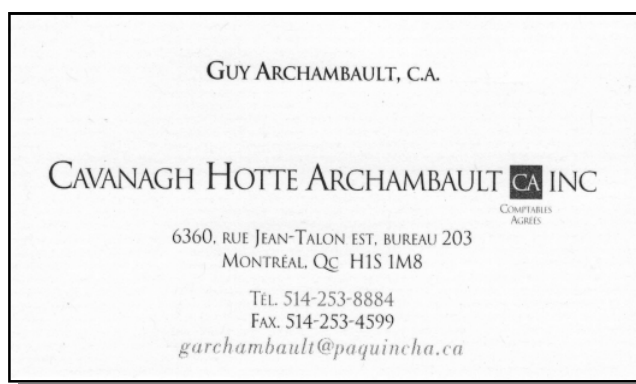
Son of Marcel Archambault and Gisèle Mercure, Guy was born in Ville Saint-Laurent (today Saint-Laurent) on July 23, 1954¹.

A graduate of l'École des Hautes Études Commerciales in Montréal, Guy Archambault is a chartered accountant since 1979. In 1984, he entered into partnership with Mr. Paquin and Mr. Hotte to form Paquin, Hotte, Archambault, a society known today as Cavanagh Hotte Archambault CA Inc., of which he is the co-founder. For more than 20 years, he has customers from different fields of activity. This practice is made, among others, of service companies, manufacturing companies, personnel training companies, non-profit organizations, health professionals and estates.

Whitin the limits of his professional duties, Guy Archambault offers his clients services in accounting, taxation, valuation and company management. Besides, Guy is a member of the Montreal Club of Initiates since 1984. A member of the Association of Les Archambault d'Amérique, Guy is the brother of Jocelyne, secretary of our association

During his pleasure time, he practices stone-carving. He also likes travelling and reading.

Married to Anne Ampleman on August 21, 1976, he is the father of three girls: Gabrielle, born in Montréal on May 24, 1979, Marie-Lyne, born in Amos on October 23, 1981 and Ève-Marie, born in Repentigny on June 13, 1985.



1. Pierre Archambault, *Dictionnaire généalogique des Archambault d'Amérique*, vol. 7, p. 49 et 50.

*Family tree
of
Guy Archambault*

Jacques France around year 1629 Françoise Tourault

Laurent Montréal 01/07/1660 Catherine Marchand

Jacques Montréal 02/15/1694 Françoise Pubuchon

Jacques Boucherville 03/20/1725 Marguerite Loiseau

Jean-Baptiste L'Assomption 07/19/1751 Marie Louise Vaillant

Jean-Baptiste Repentigny 06/24/1793 Marie Josephe (Josette) Archambault

François Repentigny 10/19/1824 Henriette Émond

Camille Saint-Paul l'Ermitage 05/14/1871 Rose de Lima Wilhelmy

Joseph Arthur Montréal 07/30/1901 Claire Bélanger

Marcel Outremont 11/28/1942 Gisèle Mercure

Guy Saint-Laurent 08/21/1976 Anne Ampleman

House of Onésime
1895, avenue des Perron, Cuteuil, Laval



Photo André G. Archambault

This stone farm house measuring 25 feet by 30 feet was erected by Magloire Goyer dit Bélisle in 1866, according to the inscription on the lintel of the main entrance door, on lot 383 at Sainte-Rose de l'île Jésus.

According to oral history of the Archambault family, who were proprietors for three generations, the said sieur Goyer who was so inclined towards the bottle had to sell the house and the land. In effect, a contract between him and Onésime Archambault was concluded on January 13, 1879 in front of the Notary Adélard Édouard Léonard.

Less than twenty two years later, on April 29, 1896, Onésime Archambault and his wife Louise Adeline Charbonneau, gave the property to their oldest son Joseph Rodrigue would make his mark in municipal politics, as he was elected Mayor of the Parish of Lower Sainte-Rose, between 1919 and 1923.



Joseph Rodrigue



Rose de Lima Éthier

On June 2, 1925, Joseph Rodrigue and his wife Rose de Lima Éthier, in their turn, “gave” the property to their son, Louis Albert. He would live a pleasant life with his three single sisters for several decades until a tragedy interrupted their peaceful and pleasant existence. In 1966, one of the three sisters, Albina died after a bunch of hoodlums broke into the house, likely attracted by roomers that the four single people had amassed a fortune. As reported by the Montréal-Matin newspaper in October 1966.

Finally, on October 11, 1979, Simon Denis and Daniel Olivier acquired the house of Louis Albert Archambault, who in turn would turn over the proceeds of the sale to Œuvres du cardinal Léger (a charity of Cardinal Léger).

Situated on the property of 23,000 square feet, the property still includes three additional buildings: a wood shed from the XIXth Century of which a portion has long been used as a bake house before the construction of a summer kitchen on the north-east gable of the house at the beginning of the XXth Century; a lean-to grain shed constructed by Joseph Rodrigue in 1900 and a shelter for the agricultural instruments, erected some twenty years later.

At the moment of the sale, traces of the bread oven were hardly evident except for a pile of rocks and the metal framework of the mouth of the oven that was still visible behind the house. The barn had been taken down at the end of 1960, and there remained the ruins of a small chicken coupe on the adjacent property. The great photographs that were passed on by Mr. Archambault showed this eloquently place to live up to the 1960s.

The presence for more than a half century of four single people who lived a rather quiet life helped to conserve the aspect of a modest country house that the Archambault family had lived in without running water, in a house with a poorly equipped electrical system dating back to 1938; who would preciously conserve the water bottles from Easter collected during the 1950s, they owned a container for the



Photo Franck Martinole



Photo André G. Archambault

sap of spruce trees, a wood stove, a chair a hole in it to accommodate a toilet pot (photo), some furniture, farm accessories, a box of cloth, etc.

The 1977 Award “Prix du patrimoine de Laval” (The Heritage Prize of Laval) was the object of the television broadcast, *Passion Maisons* shown on the *Historia* Series in 2007. The house was sold again in December 2007 to Franck Martinole, ensuring that the Archambault property remained in place.

On November 14, 2008, Franck, member of APMAQ (Association of friends and proprietors of ancient houses of Québec), was gracious enough to invite André G. Archambault, Denis Archambault of Mont-Tremblant, and Pierre Archambault our Archivist to visit his house. It was a very enriching day.



Photo Franck Martinole

Pierre Archambault, *Dictionnaire généalogique des Archambault d'Amérique*, vol. 3, p. 227.



*Family tree
of
Louis Albert Archambault*

Jacques France around the year 1629 Françoise Tourault

Laurent Montréal 01/07/1660 Catherine Marchand

Jean Montréal 06/04/1708 Cécile Lefebvre

Pierre Saint-Vincent-de-Paul, Laval 11/07/1746 Marie Charlotte Labelle

Jacques Sainte-Rose, Laval 02/12/1787 Thérèse Vaillancourt

Jean-Baptiste Sainte-Rose, Laval 01/19/1830 Marie Chartrand

Onésime Sainte-Rose, Laval 10/14/1862 Louise Charbonneau

Joseph Rodrigue Saint-François-de-Sales, Laval 07/17/1893 Rose de Lima Éthier

Louis Albert, Anna, Albina et Yvonne, unmarried



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